

## TRACKING ...

## NEWS



### Meeting tackles school, housing

PAGE 3

### Post recognized for 'going green'

PAGE 4

## SPORTS



### Lady Knights take softball title

PAGE 31

## INDEX

Commanders	2	Health	16
News	3-9	Around Post	17-18
Year of the NCO	11	Happenings	19
FMWR	13	IG	23
Family	14	Police	26
Up Close	15	Sports	31

# The Fort Jackson Leader



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# Booster shot

## Post officials update flu preparation plans

By STEVE REEVES  
Fort Jackson Leader

Fort Jackson leadership is ramping up its contingency plans in case a massive outbreak of H1N1 hits the post later this year.

Representatives from agencies across Fort Jackson attended a "tabletop" exercise Monday morning in the Emergency Operations Center.

The exercise signaled a change in Fort Jackson's preparations for an outbreak of H1N1 as the post switches from a reactive to a proactive posture.

"None of us can predict how bad or how mild this will be," said Col. Jeffrey Sander-

son, Fort Jackson's chief of staff. "What we can do is control how we prepare for this."

Sanderson said he anticipates one of the most difficult aspects of any outbreak on post is getting an accurate count of the number of personnel available to work each day and making sure there are enough healthy Soldiers and civilian employees to keep Fort Jackson functioning.

"Fort Jackson is so interrelated," Sanderson said. "It's not just about a Soldier in training. It's also a contractor supporting that Soldier, a cadre training the Soldier and our civilian workforce."

The H1N1 flu strain first emerged last year in Mexico. It quickly spread worldwide,

resulting in the first flu pandemic being declared in more than 40 years. The initial outbreak killed more than 500 people in the United States but was not as bad as feared, though health officials believe a second outbreak is probable and could be worse this time.

The most likely time for an outbreak will be when Soldiers are returning to Fort Jackson from block leave at the end of the Christmas and New Year's holidays, Sanderson said.

He said tracking the number of cadre, civilian workers and Soldiers in training who

See PLAN: Page 9

## Farewell to a fallen comrade



A Soldier with 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment pauses to touch a set of dog tags during a memorial service Monday for Pvt. Jonathan Morales, who died last week. For more on this story, see Page 3.

Photo by CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN



# Campaign plan a roadmap for the future

Some six months ago, the senior leaders on post put their heads together to outline all of the things we do here on Fort Jackson and figure out the best way to plot our course into the future.

The result was a blueprint, or campaign plan — which, simply put, organizes items under various objectives and provides an analytical means to show where things fit in and assess the progress we are making.

This is not advanced calculus, by any means, but rather a sound methodology that any large organization such as ours needs for steering and also to ensure that it functions efficiently and productively.

A campaign plan is a plain-to-see necessary instrument when it comes to making long-term decisions. It allows us to view where we were back when, so that we can gauge where we are today and figure out exactly how much progress was made. It also shows us the areas in which more work is needed.

The campaign plan flows along three lines of operation, which are training, quality of life and support and sustainability. Under these lines, 10 campaign objectives are listed, as well as 49 major objectives.

Two weeks ago, the post's leadership got together again to examine where we are with our plan and its execution.

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**BRIG. GEN.  
BRADLEY W. MAY**  
*Fort Jackson  
Commanding  
General*



It pleases me to report that there are two very important areas in which significant progress is clearly visible.

Those items would be: enhancements to mitigate the effects of persistent conflict and substantial growth in new housing and additional programs.

As for health and welfare of our Soldiers, and specifically the effects of persistent conflict, there has been some major strides made. A few of the key initiatives are resiliency programs for our drill sergeants and Soldiers, as well as Battlemind training and suicide prevention training in general.

The advantages of more Soldiers and their families being able to live on post are obvious in that commuting

has been eliminated. Savings in time and expenses will be realized, as well as the benefits of additional security and greater convenience. As we move forward with the plan, our next step is to establish the metrics to measure the effect of the plan's initiatives.

This is an all-important step because it not only allows us to measure our success, but also lets us know where adjustments are needed — all of which paves the way for Fort Jackson to play a pivotal part in the training of our Soldiers.

As I have said in the past, our mission here is vital, and our obligations to our country demand the very best in all of us across the board — and, when I say that, I am talking about the military and civilian members of our Fort Jackson family.

Our legacy to the Fort Jackson generations that come after us must be one of selfless service, supported with strong and sharp leadership.

I am confident more than ever that we will continue to move forward from milepost to milepost in this mission. We will meet the mission requirements and accomplish the task, all the while carving out a legacy that is seeded in our accomplishments and deeds.

Army Strong!

## Ask the garrison commander about: Casualty acronyms explained

*What does the acronym DUSTWUN stand for?*

DUSTWUN means duty status, whereabouts unknown. This is a transitory/temporary casualty status, used when the reason for a member's absence is uncertain and it is possible that the member may be a casualty whose absence is involuntary, but there is not sufficient evidence determine that the member's actual status is missing or deceased.

*What does the abbreviation SI stand for when referring to a casualty?*

SI stands for seriously wounded, injured or ill. It is the casualty status of a person whose illness or injury is classified by medical authorities to be of such severity that there is cause for immediate concern, but there is no imminent danger to life.

*I will be relocating to Fort Jackson next month and need information about the area schools for my three children. Where can I get assistance in picking the right schools to suit my children's needs?*

Fort Jackson has two school liaison officers, Keisha McCoy-Wilson and Ann Gordon, who can assist you in finding schools for your children. They are available from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and can be reached at 751-6150.

You can also find information on area schools, home schooling, homework help and more online at [www.fort-jacksonmwr.com/cys/](http://www.fort-jacksonmwr.com/cys/).

Click on education and school liaison services in the drop-down menu.

**COL.  
LILLIAN A. DIXON**  
*Fort Jackson  
Garrison  
Commander*



*My wife and I love good jazz music. Is there anywhere on post that offers jazz evenings?*

Coming up Sept. 18, at 6:30 p.m., the Officers' Club will be hosting the Great Jazz Divas dinner show. It will be an evening of music made famous by great jazz divas such as Sarah Vaughn, Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holliday and others performed by the duo of Davis and Dow. They will also be performing some of their contemporary works.

The cost is \$16.50 for members and \$20 for non-members. Can call the Officers' Club for information and reservations.

**GARRISON FACT OF THE WEEK**

A new Web site, [www.myarmyonesource.com/cyss\\_tutor](http://www.myarmyonesource.com/cyss_tutor), is free for military children to get interactive homework help on everything from essay writing to calculus. Call 751-6150 for more information on how to use this service.

*To submit questions, call 751-2842, or e-mail [scott.nahrwold@conus.army.mil](mailto:scott.nahrwold@conus.army.mil).*

# Post mourns death of BCT Soldier

By **CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN**  
*Fort Jackson Leader*

Soldiers with Company F, 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry Regiment were joined by the Fort Jackson community Monday as they paid tribute to a fallen comrade.

Pvt. Jonathan Morales, an 18-year-old Milwaukee native, died Aug. 20 following a road march.

He was scheduled to graduate with his peers this week.

Morales' leaders and fellow Basic Combat Training Soldiers described a hard-working Soldier with a "never give up"

attitude.

Members of his platoon knew him as "Linebacker" - a name given him because of his size.

"He was a Soldier with lots of potential, and he had the ability to be a great leader," said Staff Sgt. Maria Herrera, one of Morales' drill sergeants. "He met challenges daily, but would not hesitate to take them head on.

Although he won't physically be on the field with us (this week), Pvt. Morales will



**MORALES**

He was also the model of the Army's values, she said.

be with us in our hearts."

Pvt. Leslie Rivera, who served in 2nd platoon with Morales, spoke of the friendship the two came to share during their time at BCT. She recalled his perseverance through difficult missions, as well as his upbeat personality.

"In our eyes, he was the perfect example of a Soldier," she said.

"He had the true definition of integrity in his heart."

Like the many others who spoke at the memorial service, Rivera said that Morales would be missed.

"He wanted to make a difference," she said. "He wanted to make a change and make a difference, and in my mind, he has done just that."

Morales is survived by his mother, Marisol Desarden, his father, Sebastian Morales and his sister, Odalyesse.

Post officials began an investigation Monday into Morales' death.

*Crystal.Y.Brown@us.army.mil*

## School, housing top issues at town hall meeting

By **SUSANNE KAPPLER**  
*Fort Jackson Leader*

More than 100 community members attended a town hall meeting Tuesday at the Solomon Center, during which garrison officials gave updates on ongoing projects and answered audience questions.

The meeting focused in large parts on the new school year, the upcoming flu season and the on-post housing situation.

Samantha Ingram, the new superintendent for the Fort Jackson / South Carolina / DoDDS-Cuba school district, assured parents that Fort Jackson schools are committed to success.

"Our total focus will be on student achievement," Ingram said.

Rose Edmond, chief of Child, Youth and School Services, said that applications are still being accepted for transportation services to off-post schools. Two schools have been added to the program, Bridgecreek Elementary School and Kelly Mills Middle School.

Edmond also explained ongoing and upcoming after-school programs, as well as the extended hours care options available on post.

The meeting also included briefings on school and school bus safety. A new program will start at on-post schools this fall, teaching children how to recognize unexploded ordnance and what to do after identifying it, said Ron Ross, post safety center.

Col. Nancy Hughes, commander of Moncrief Army Community Hospital, encouraged community members to get a seasonal flu shot.

In addition, H1N1 vaccinations are expected to be offered later this year, she said. Hughes explained that the H1N1 vaccination will require two shots.

The first can be administered 21 days after the seasonal flu shot, and the second 21 days after the first H1N1 shot, she said.

Representatives from Balfour Beatty Communities and

### CAMPAIGN PLAN FOCUS



The town hall meeting supports enhancing the quality of life for Soldiers and family members (5.0 and 6.0 on the strategy map). Quality of life is one of the three lines of operation of the Fort Jackson campaign plan.

the Residential Communities Initiative updated attendees on the status of housing construction on post.

James Harper, Balfour Beatty project director, encouraged residents to inform Balfour Beatty about problems in the construction areas. Harper also said that Phase I demolition is complete and construction is well under way.

"We have construction activity going on in every area and rank structure," he said.

Karen Padgett, Balfour Beatty community manager, encouraged residents to participate in the regularly-scheduled neighborhood huddles.

"This is a forum for you to bring issues to us, give us an opportunity to fix them and then move forward," Padgett said.

Before allowing questions, garrison officials addressed issues that were raised at the last town hall meeting in May:

— The Exceptional Family Member Program will begin an aquatics program next month.

— Free admission is now available at Legion Pool for those with Palmetto Falls Water Park season passes.

— The sound levels of public announcement speakers near the housing areas have been adjusted.

— Officials are still looking into a location for a skeet range.

One of the questions raised by a community member concerned lack of EFMP staff. Carla Atkinson, Army Com-



*Photo by SUSANNE KAPPLER*

**Rose Edmond, chief of Child, Youth and School Services, briefs the community on programs for the school year.**

munity Service director, said that one position is being recruited and that another position may be recruited next fiscal year if the funding is approved. Brig. Gen. Bradley May, Fort Jackson commanding general, said he would take it upon himself to raise the lack of funding to the next level.

"I know that (the issue) is worth my personal investment and time to see what we can do," May said.

Other concerns raised included construction details; speeding in the housing area; Family Day and graduation traffic; and parking at Pierce Terrace Elementary School.

The next town hall meeting is scheduled for Nov. 17, 5:30 p.m. at the Solomon Center.

*Susanne.Kappler1@us.army.mil*



# Post recognized for fuel cell initiative

*Fort Jackson Leader staff report*

Fort Jackson was recognized as a leader in green technology in the Midlands for the installation of hydrogen fuel cells as back-up power in three on-post facilities.

The installation was awarded the 2009 Palmetto Pillar Award for Green Technology Initiatives in a ceremony Aug. 20 at the Embassy Suites Hotel. The award recognizes a Midlands-area green technology-based project and is presented by the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce Information Technology Council.

"It's a recognition by the local community as we work to pursue the promise of alternative energy," said Scott Nahrwold, deputy garrison commander. "It's a pleasure for us to be able to participate in a small way in that effort, and we really appreciate the initiatives on the part of the Department of Energy, the South Carolina Research Alliance, the city of Columbia and the state of South Carolina for all that they've done in cooperation with us to bring this particular project to reality here at Fort Jackson."

The 10 hydrogen fuel cells were installed earlier this year as primary back-up power at the Directorate of Information Technology, the Directorate of Emergency Services and the Energy Management Control Center.

Because hydrogen is a byproduct that can be easily captured as waste from various commercial plants, the catalyst of the fuel cell energy is free, with no wasted energy. There are also no emissions from the fuel cell-generated electricity.

Organizations and companies are nominated for the award by professionals in the information technology field.

Fort Jackson was nominated by Jesus RosaVelez, DOIM director, whose organization received six of the hy-



*Photo courtesy of Bemo Photo*

**Col. Lillian Dixon, garrison commander, accepts the Palmetto Pillar Award for Green Technology Initiatives during a ceremony Aug. 20. Also pictured, from left, are Neil McLean, Dale Johnston and Lonnie Emard from the Columbia Information Technology Council. The award is presented to companies or organizations for green technology-based projects.**

drogen fuel cells.

"I believe in green technology applications that are both economically viable and environmentally sound. The fuel cells installed at Fort Jackson fit those categories,"

RosaVelez said. "I did not hesitate to nominate the installation and take great pride that we actually won the award, which shows recognition of our commitment by the community."

## Fort Jackson's got talent



*Photo by DELAWESE FULTON*

**Marcus Lara and Jessica Doiron perform a duet of the country song "What Hurts the Most" at the BOSS talent show Friday at the NCO Club. BOSS, which stands for Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, hosts the annual show as one of its numerous community events.**

## Fight club



*Photo by STEVE REEVES*

**Sgt. 1st Class Eric Swanson, right, and Staff Sgt. Albert Marshall, both drill sergeants with Company A, 3rd Battalion, 60th Infantry Regiment, demonstrate combatives techniques during a training session Tuesday. The 3-60th converted a classroom earlier this month into a combatives fight room.**



# Credit cards reveal a lot about users

Using credit cards has become commonplace for purchases, either for convenience or when cash is short.

While we know that overspending can lead to financial difficulties, including lower credit scores and limited availability to credit and lower interest rates, what consumers may not be aware of is that every purchase on a credit card is tracked and falls under an IRS coding system.

This tracking data may have an unexpected impact on a person's credit history, credit score and credit availability.

A percentage of any credit score is determined by the debt to credit limit ratio. The higher the credit limit and the lower the debt amount, the better.

Higher credit limits are desirable and can increase a credit score as long as consumers do not overspend. As credit issuers continue to tighten up the criteria to identify potential financial instability among their customers and to establish credit limits in line with that risk, more consumers are finding their current credit limits are being lowered, sometimes to below or just above the account balance.

This is also happening to consumers who have practiced sound money and credit management.

Credit card issuers have long used data collection systems to record merchant products and services used with card purchases.

Typically, this information has been used to help creditors manage their customer accounts by analyzing con-

## FINANCIAL ADVICE

By **CHRISTINA CLARK**  
*Army Community Service*

sumer markets, general spending trends, the prevention of employee abuse of company credit cards, help prevent fraud through the detection of unusual spending patterns and helping law enforcement locate crime victims or suspects. It has also been used to help evaluate whether a customer may become a credit risk.

Some companies have also used this information to provide annual spending summaries to clients as a service.

By law, this tracking data may not be shared externally, except for law enforcement purposes. This means each company only has a portion of a customer's financial picture, particularly since most Americans have multiple credit cards.

Are companies using internal data to determine which accounts will have their credit limits reduced based on this limited information? The answer is not yet clear. Regulators and consumer advocates are focusing on the potential for consumer profiling based on this data and where consumers live.

How is this happening? Every credit purchase is tracked using an assigned code called a Merchant Category Code. These codes are provided through IRS regulation and, with some diligence, can be found on the IRS Web site.

These codes include medical and drug services, shoe repair shops, restaurants, retail stores, nightclubs, discount stores, adult entertainment purchases, counseling services, food, gas and household bills.

There is evidence that some companies are engaging in the practice of profiling. In a July 2009 article on *CreditCards.com*, Connie Prater wrote that American Express admitted to using tracking trends to reduce credit limits to certain consumers they determined to be a credit risk, although AMEX stated it had stopped this practice.

Prater also reported that in 2008, the Federal Trade Commission took legal action against certain subprime credit card issuers for determining credit limits based on where a customer shopped and lived.

Federal regulators are continuing an investigation into whether other companies are using this data to determine credit limits and conduct other forms of profiling.

How do you use your credit card? Some experts are suggesting that consumers with privacy concerns may want to be careful in making credit purchases. By using cash or debit cards, purchasing information remains confidential and is not tracked.

Using credit cards carefully for purchasing continues to be a major tool for good money management and potentially for consumer protection.

For more information on credit cards or any other financial subject, contact an Army Community Service financial counselor at 751-5256.

## Get the motor running

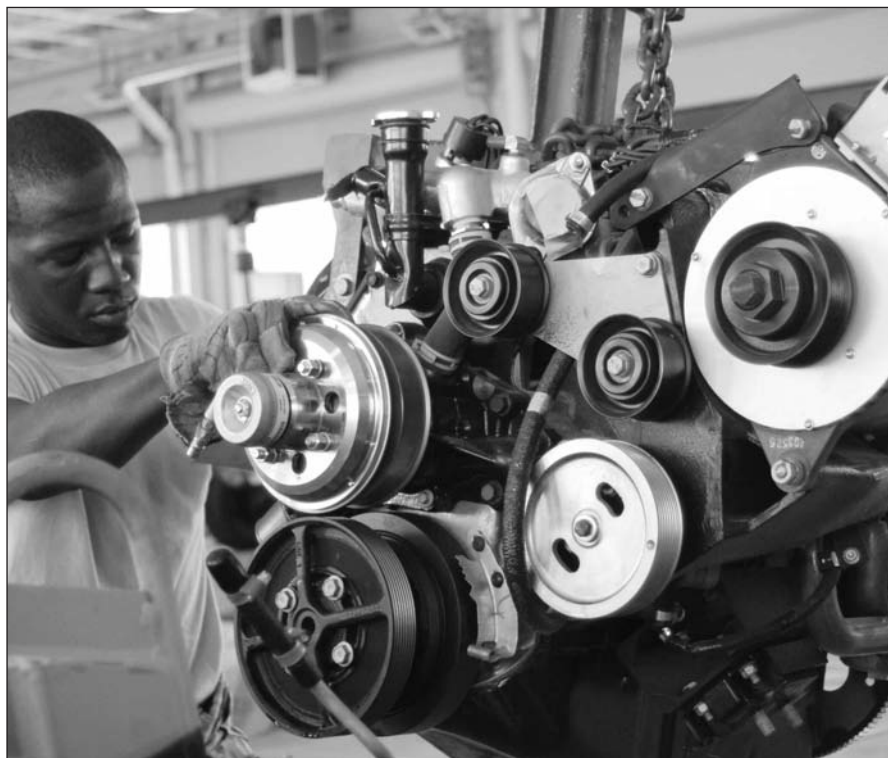


Photo by CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN

**Pfc. Jeremy Johnson, an Advanced Individual Training student in the 187th Ordnance Battalion's Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic School, practices taking an engine out of a vehicle. Johnson and his fellow AIT Soldiers were learning to remove and reinstall the engines.**

## Family Day kicks



Photo by DELAWESE FULTON

**Pvt. Brittany Nolen plays soccer with her friend Baleria Leon, who came to visit her on Family Day, Aug. 20. Nolen was assigned to Company D, 1st Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment for Basic Combat Training. She graduated with her peers last week.**

National Suicide Prevention Week: Sept. 6-12

# Knowing risk factors may prevent suicide

**W**hen a loved one commits suicide, the question many ask is “why?”

Given similar circumstances, why is it that some people attempt or threaten suicide while others do not entertain the thought?

Suicide is the 11th leading cause of death among Americans of all ages. A recent study showed that more than 33,000 suicides occurred in the U.S in one year. This is the equivalent of 91 suicides per day; one suicide every 16 minutes; or 11.1 suicides per 100,000 people.

The alarming numbers of suicide deaths and attempts emphasize the need for carefully designed prevention efforts.

Although suicide is often characterized as a response to a single stressful event, it is a far more complicated issue. Suicide results from complex interactions among biological, psychological, social and environmental factors.

Adverse life events in combination with other risk factors, such as depression, may lead to suicide. However, suicide and suicidal behavior are not normal responses to stress. Many people have one or more risk factors and are not suicidal.

*Does depression increase the risk of suicide?*

Although the majority of people who have depression do not commit suicide, having major depression does increase the risk of suicide.

The risk of suicide may, in part, be related to the severity of the depression. Another way about thinking of suicide risk and depression is to examine the lives of people who have died by suicide and see what proportion of them were depressed.

From that perspective, it is estimated that about 60 percent of people who commit suicide have had a mood disorder (e.g., major depression, bipolar disorder, dysthymia).

Younger people who kill themselves

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

By **SANDRA BARNES**

*Army Substance Abuse Program*

often have a substance-abuse disorder in addition to being depressed.

*Do alcohol and other drug abuse increase the risk for suicide?*

In studies that examine risk factors among people who committed suicide, substance use and abuse occurs more frequently among youth and adults, compared to older people.

Alcohol and substance abuse problems contribute to suicidal behavior in several ways. Those who are dependent on substances often have a number of other risk factors for suicide.

Substance use and abuse can be common among people prone to be impulsive, and among people who engage in many types of high-risk behaviors that result in self-harm.

*Is it possible to predict suicide?*

Currently, there is no definitive measure to predict suicide or suicidal behavior. Researchers have identified factors that place people at higher risk for suicide, but very few people with these risk factors will actually commit suicide.

Risk factors include: Mental illness, substance abuse, previous suicide attempts, family history of suicide, history of being sexually abused, incarceration, exposure to the suicidal behavior of others, including family members, peers or even in the media; and impulsive or aggressive tendencies.

Suicide is relatively rare, making it difficult to predict which people with these risk factors will ultimately commit suicide.

*What should you do if someone tells*

## CAMPAIGN PLAN FOCUS



Suicide prevention is a major objective of the Fort Jackson campaign plan (7.2 on the strategy map). This falls under the campaign objective “mitigating effects of persistent conflict,” which aims to enhance “quality of life,” one of the three lines of operation of the campaign plan.

*you he or she is thinking about suicide?*

If someone tells you he or she is thinking about suicide, you should take the distress seriously, listen nonjudgmentally, and help him or her get to a professional for evaluation and treatment.

People consider suicide because they feel hopeless and are unable to see alternative solutions to problems. If someone is in imminent danger of harming himself or herself, do not leave the person alone.

You may need to take emergency steps to get help, such as calling 911. When someone is in a suicidal crisis, it is important to limit access to firearms or other means of committing suicide.

**Editor’s note:** The source for this article was the National Institute of Mental Health. For more information on the National Institute of Mental Health visit the website [www.nimh.nih.gov](http://www.nimh.nih.gov). For more information on suicide on the Web you can go to American Association of Suicidology at [www.suicidology.org](http://www.suicidology.org). At Fort Jackson, if you have any questions on training for suicide prevention or about substance abuse, call 751-5007.

## SUICIDE WARNING SIGNS

In most cases, there are warning signs that someone is contemplating suicide. The most effective way to prevent suicide is to recognize the warning signs, take them seriously and know how to respond to them. The warning signs are:

- ☐ Talking about suicide.
  - ☐ Always talking or thinking about death.
  - ☐ Recent loss — through death, divorce, separation, broken relationship, loss of job, money, status.
  - ☐ Change in personality — sad, withdrawn, irritable, anxious, tired, indecisive, apathetic.
  - ☐ Change in behavior — can’t concentrate on school, work, routine tasks.
  - ☐ Change in sleep patterns — insomnia, often with early waking or oversleeping, nightmares.
  - ☐ Change in eating habits — loss of appetite and weight, or overeating.
  - ☐ Diminished sexual interest.
  - ☐ Fear of losing control — harming self or others.
  - ☐ Low self esteem — feeling worthless, shame, overwhelming guilt.
  - ☐ No hope for the future — believing things will never get better
  - ☐ Other things to watch for: suicidal impulses, statements, plans; giving away favorite things; previous suicide attempts, substance abuse, making out wills, arranging for the care of pets, extravagant spending, agitation, hyperactivity, restlessness or lethargy.
- If a person exhibits suicidal tendencies, encourage the person to seek the help of a mental health professional.



## Back at school



Photo by STEVE REEVES

Evetta Johnson, a third-grade teacher at C.C. Pinckney Elementary School, helps Melissa Freitas, 8, pick out items from the lunch menu Aug. 20, the first day of school for Fort Jackson. Approximately 250 students attend C.C. Pinckney Elementary.

# Plan in place for flu season

Continued from Page 1

are sick will be of paramount importance.

Sanderson said he is confident that Fort Jackson will be ready in the event of an outbreak.

"We have a pretty solid plan now," Sanderson said.

Col. Nancy Hughes, commander of Moncrief Army Community Hospital, said between 1,000 and 2,500 cases of seasonal and H1N1 flu are expected at Fort Jackson.

"We're hoping to keep it to a 35 percent increase over last year," Hughes said.

Hughes said an additional 5,000 seasonal flu shots have been ordered for Fort Jackson.

Fort Jackson has already identified a location where more than 3,000 infected personnel could be kept isolated in case of a flu outbreak.

There are also preparations under way to administer seasonal flu shots beginning in October, as well as H1N1 immunizations, if they are available.

Maj. Tom Sherbert, Installation Emergency Medical Officer, said the post has to be prepared if a pandemic happens.

"There is an assumption that this thing is coming back around," Sherbert said.

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Photo by STEVE REEVES

Maj. Tom Sherbert, installation emergency medical officer, holds up examples of two types of masks used to help prevent the spread of influenza during an H1N1 tabletop exercise Monday at the Fort Jackson Emergency Operations Center.

## Housing Happenings

### COMMUNITY UPDATES

❑ LifeWork events are free and open to all residents. To register, or for more information, e-mail [cowilliams@bbcgrp.com](mailto:cowilliams@bbcgrp.com) or call 738-8275. Join the LifeWorks e-mail list and stay informed. Stop by the management office and pick up a calendar of events. Visit [www.ftjacksonfamilyhousing.com](http://www.ftjacksonfamilyhousing.com).

❑ This month only, residents who refer a friend will receive \$500 once the friend moves in.

❑ Balfour Beatty Communities is now leasing to single Soldiers E6 and above. There is a limited number of apartments available on Thomas Court for single

### Soldiers.

Call 738-8275 for details.

### DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

❑ JNCO/Community Center — Retaining walls are installed.

— Framing is in the late stages on the community center. Windows are installed and the curbing asphalt was poured.

— Two townhome buildings and one UFAS home are in the late stages of framing. — 256 units were demolished.

— Curbing was installed on Bradley Court and the first layer of asphalt was poured.

❑ Senior NCO

— Demolition is complete. Debris cleanup is almost finished.

❑ Company grade officer

— Site work continues.

— All concrete slabs are poured.

— Framing is in the early stages.

— Curbing is in and the first layer of asphalt is scheduled for this week.

— All 24 units are demolished.

❑ Field grade officer

— Siding, windows, roofing and duct work is in various stages.

— Exterior painting has begun.

— Electric and plumbing installation is ongoing.

— Sheet rock installation is scheduled for this week.

— Curbs, the first layer of asphalt and the gutter were poured for portions of the new street.

### LEADER DEADLINES

❑ Article submissions are due two weeks before the scheduled publication. For example, an article for the Sept. 10 *Leader* must be submitted by today.

❑ Announcements are due one week before the scheduled publication. For example, an announcement for the Sept. 10 *Leader* should be submitted by Sept. 3.



# Fort Jackson

## Heat Injury Prevention

### Safety Gram SG-08

Fort Jackson has experienced several heat-related incidents in the Basic Combat Training arena the last few weeks. Consecutive extremely hot and humid days have diminishing effects on all Soldiers, increasing the potential for heat injury and prompting increased vigilance. All units are requested to review their procedures and hone their Heat Injury Prevention knowledge to ensure credible safety posture in the event a potential heat injury rears its ugly head. A starting point would be to review FJ Regulation 385-11 to become familiar with all aspects of the heat injury prevention program. Another important step is to inspect Combat Life Saver bags and associated equipment to ensure that all required items are available and serviceable. Ensure all personnel are well-trained and well-versed in identifying signs and symptoms of heat injuries. **Leader and Soldier knowledge** of the signs of heat injuries are crucial factors in heat injury identification and prevention. Remember, when in doubt — 911 and Ice.

- ❑ **Call 911.**
- ❑ **Strip casualty down to his or her underwear.**
- ❑ **Cover casualty with iced sheets.**
- ❑ **Maintain 100 percent constant monitoring by the same person.**
- ❑ **Replace or refresh sheets when they become warm or dry.**
- ❑ **Cease cooling if patient begins shivering.**



***Mission First — Safety Always***  
***Fort Jackson Safety Center***





# Evans: ‘Live the Army values’

**Rank, name**  
1st Sgt. Ellsworth Evans

**Unit**  
17th Military Police Detachment

**Military Occupational Specialty / Job title**  
First sergeant/ 31B, military police

**Years in service**  
19

**Family**  
Married, three children

**Highest education**  
Bachelor’s degree

**Hobbies**  
Playing guitar



Photo by CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN

**First Sgt. Ellsworth Evans, right, said although his father was not in the military, he provided Evans the inspiration to join the Army.**

First Sgt. Ellsworth Evans said what he enjoys most about being in the Army is seeing the transformation new Soldiers make during Basic Combat Training.

“I loved being a drill sergeant ... and changing civilians into Soldiers,” he said.

In his 19 years of service, Evans has been deployed to Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan and Egypt.

He has been stationed at the Sierra Army Depot in Herlong, Calif.; Okinawa, Japan; Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico; Fort McClellan, Ala., Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; Fort McPherson, Ga. and West Point, N.Y.

He said his father is the person who has most influenced his career.

## NCO spotlight

“My father died when I was young,” he said. “He always wanted to be in the military, and he always told me, ‘You can do anything you put your mind to.’ And I just kind of wanted to live his dream for him, and that (was) being in the military.”

He said his goals are three-fold.

“Definitely to be a command sergeant major, that’s No. 1,” he said.

He said he also wants to complete his master’s degree and spend more time with his family.

His advice for junior enlisted Soldiers

is for them to be resilient.

“Although in life, you might not get the best, or (you may) go through hard times, if you’re resilient, you can overcome those obstacles,” he said.

He said President Obama’s election as the first black president is an example of resiliency.

“No one thought that would happen,” he said. “He had to be resilient because I’m pretty sure ... he was told he couldn’t do it.”

He also advises Soldiers to: “Live the Army values every day. It sounds cliché, but (they) are a foundation of how to live every day.”

We salute you!

## The NCO Creed

No one is more professional than I. I am a non-commissioned officer, a leader of Soldiers. As a noncommissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time-honored corps, which is known as “the backbone of the Army.”

I am proud of the Corps of Noncommissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the corps, the military service and my country regardless of the situation in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit, or personal safety.

Competence is my watchword. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind — accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers. I will strive to remain technically and tactically proficient.

I am aware of my role as a noncommissioned officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All Soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my Soldiers and I will always place their needs above my own.

I will communicate consistently with my Soldiers and never leave them uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment.

Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my Soldiers.

I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers, and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, noncommissioned officers, leaders!

**CONTACTING THE LEADER**

To contact the *Leader*, e-mail [FJLeader@conus.army.mil](mailto:FJLeader@conus.army.mil) or call 751-7045.

# HIRED! offers real-life work experience for teens

Summer — and your summer job — may be over, but that does not mean opportunities to earn money are all dried up, too. How would you like to work in a field you are actually interested in, be able to learn valuable skills and still have plenty of time for school and extracurricular activities? You need to check out HIRED!

The HIRED! Apprenticeship Program is a workforce-preparation and apprenticeship enterprise designed to meet the employment and career-exploration needs of teens, 15-18.

HIRED! Apprenticeships consist of four, 12-week terms repeated annually. Teens can participate in a maximum of two terms per year for three consecutive years.

Within each 12-week term, apprentices are expected to work 15 hours in a seven-day period while concurrently participating in workforce preparation and secondary education exploration workshops, for a total of 180 hours.

Upon successful completion of each HIRED! term, the apprentices are eligible for a cash award through Child, Youth and School Services.

This summer, HIRED! apprentices worked in a variety of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities such as marketing, CYSS nutrition, information technology, and sports and fitness.

Jessika Angulo spent her apprenticeship as an entry-level computer technology specialist. Angulo helped set up new computers, performed database analysis and database cleanup. She said one benefit of the apprenticeship was gaining an education in central processing units.

Working in the Marketing Division was an eye-opening experience, according to apprentice Devin Patrick.

"I began my apprenticeship in June, and discovered FMWR Marketing is in charge of almost everything on paper, from ICE (Interactive Customer Evaluation) cards to banners," he said. "The first week I shadowed a worker

## Army Family Covenant

By THERESA O'HAGAN

*Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation*

who designed a page of ads in the Fort Jackson newspaper. I was able to learn the basic functions of CorelDraw and Photoshop."

Patrick also embossed coupons, operated printers and the folding machine, bound books, observed Family Day bus tours and designed a t-shirt.

"I hardly ever had a dull moment," Patrick said. "There was so much to do all the time that it really kept me on my toes."

Patrick, who graduated high school early, will start college in the fall armed with new knowledge.

"I feel I learned a little more about how everything works and how to use different types of equipment and programs," said Patrick, who is majoring in digital animation.

To participate in HIRED! students must:

— Be 15-18, and be the son or daughter of a Soldier or DoD Civilian.

— Currently be registered with Child, Youth and School Services. (Registration is free through the Army Family Covenant.

— Currently be attending high school (proof required).

— Possess and maintain at least a 2.0 grade-point-average throughout the duration of the program (proof required).

— Complete a local police background check and mock interview.

For more information on HIRED!, contact Corey Dwyer at 751-3977/6387.

## FMWR calendar

### THURSDAY

- ❑ Visit Century Lanes for food, fun and bowling.
- ❑ Magraders Pub and Club is open for lunch.
- ❑ Visit the Officers' Club 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. for specials or the buffet.
- ❑ Wardrobe reinvention with EDGE!, 4-7 p.m. at 5957-D Parker Lane.

### FRIDAY

- ❑ Artistic Expressions with Jake, 6:30 p.m., Teen Room at the Youth Services Center.
- ❑ Dance to a variety of music provided by DJ Randall at Magraders Club, 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. Magraders Club is located in the back of Magraders Pub. Cover charge is \$5 for civilians and \$3 for military.
- ❑ Family Golf Night, 5-7 p.m., Fort Jackson Golf Club.

### SATURDAY

- ❑ Step Team practice, 2 p.m., dance room at the Youth Services Center.
- ❑ Classic Soul Saturday, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m., Excalibur Room at the NCO Club. Cover charge is \$5 for civilians and \$3 for military. Live broadcast from the BIG DM 101.3 with giveaways, 9:30-11 p.m.

### SUNDAY

- ❑ Family day at the Youth Services Center, 2-6 p.m.
- ❑ Traditional brunch, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Officers' Club. Coat and tie are no longer required. T-shirts, running attire and flip flops are not permitted.
- ❑ Couples' tournament, 2 p.m., Fort Jackson Golf Club.

### WEDNESDAY

- ❑ Karaoke night with Tom Marable at Magraders Club. Cover charge is \$5 for civilians and \$3 for military.
- ❑ Party night, 8 p.m., NCO Club. Cover charge is \$7 for civilians and \$5 for military.
- ❑ Altered art with EDGE!, 3:30-5 p.m. For more information, call 751-3053.

### ONGOING OFFERS

❑ Child, Youth and School Services provides free child care and youth programming on Saturdays for active-duty parents who must work to meet mission requirements. The free child care is also available to parents who are in the National Guard or Reserve during battle training assembly. In addition, child and youth programming is available to other parents at an hourly or daily rate.

❑ Victory Travel has special offers for a variety of dinner shows and attractions. Currently offered are discounted tickets to Carowinds, \$30 per ticket, and Six Flags, \$27 per ticket, for the 2009 season. Some offers require reservations. For more information, visit Victory Travel in the Solomon Center.

❑ The Officers' Club is ready to host your next special event. The club's professional staff will ensure every detail is addressed so your event will be to your specifications.

❑ The NCO Club breakfast is served 6-9 a.m., Monday through Friday. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3.75 for children 4-10 years old.

❑ Enjoy resort accommodations for between two and six people with the Armed Forces Vacation Club for less than one would pay for most hotels. For details of resort availability, call the reservation center at (800) 724-9988. Be sure to say you are a first-time Armed Forces vacation caller. A vacation counselor will take your enrollment and help you find an available resort. Fort Jackson is installation number 164.





# Friendship part of suicide prevention

About a month after my husband and I arrived at Fort Jackson, I got a phone call from one of my former co-workers.

“Are you sitting down?” she asked.

Another one of our co-workers, whom I’d come to know as a friend, had committed suicide, she told me.

She went on to tell me the details — how he didn’t show up for work that day, where they found him — but I was already mentally asking myself how suicide could be possible.

“Are you sure it was suicide?” I kept asking her. “Maybe it was an accident.”

But it wasn’t.

For weeks afterward, I couldn’t stop thinking about him. What could we have done? Is there something we missed? How could this have been prevented?

I think these are the questions that go through the minds of many of us who have been affected, directly or indirectly, by suicide. And as National Suicide Prevention Week nears, I have found myself thinking about my friend more and more.

On television, when someone commits suicide, the sound bites we often hear are, “I’m so shocked,” or, “I would never think he/she was capable of suicide.”

What those snippets leave out is that anyone is capa-

## CRYSTAL CLEAR

By **CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN**

*Fort Jackson Leader*



ble of suicide, and it is up to us — friends, loved ones, family and co-workers — to do our part to make sure it doesn’t happen to someone close to us.

Don’t get me wrong — you can’t prevent someone who is thinking about committing suicide from going through with it. But you can watch out for the warning signs and take action.

A friend of mine explained how in college, she attempted suicide. The stresses of college life were overwhelming, and suicide seemed the only way out. I experienced a similar feeling during my college years. Although I didn’t attempt suicide, I did completely withdraw from almost everything for several weeks. And things were starting to seem hopeless.

At the time, I was going through a rocky relationship while juggling my school work and three part-time jobs. For two or three weeks, I did nothing but go to work. I skipped classes, ignored phone calls and refused to open the door. What I didn’t know — and what my friends didn’t know — was that my withdrawal was a warning sign.

My friend was lucky. She called a friend and told her what she’d done and went to the hospital. I was lucky. A caring professor and my friends were concerned enough to make sure I dragged myself out of my dorm and back into the real world.

But others, like my former co-worker, weren’t so lucky. And now, still, I am left wondering if his loner attitude was a warning sign I should have picked up on.

If you notice the sudden change in a friend’s behavior, or any of the other warning signs of someone who may be contemplating suicide, flat out ask if he or she is thinking of suicide. If you feel overwhelmed or hopeless, tell someone. No one will think any less of you if you admit to having suicidal thoughts, and sharing those feelings are a sign of strength, not weakness.

I wasn’t there to help my co-worker and friend, but I hope that you take the time to find out what you can do to help yours.

# Daily stressors take mom from unqualified to sharpshooter

I went to the range recently, and I was a steely-eyed killer. On a qualification course with targets popping up out of the ground, I shot 35 out of the 40 silhouettes that dared to challenge me.

Granted, I was using an M-16 with a laser beam, and they were virtual targets, but I still wiped them out. This is an amazing accomplishment for me because during my active duty days, I could not hit the broad side of a barn. I would stay out on the firing range all day and still not qualify by hitting just 23 of the 40 targets.

I’ve never been able to shoot. Throughout my career, my instructors, sergeants and I tried everything we could think of to improve my shooting. We tried various tactics, different arm positions, different firing positions; I even wore a patch over my eye to remain focused on the target. Nothing helped.

Now, I can shoot 35 out of 40 targets without breaking a sweat. The only difference between active duty Cursha and Reserves Cursha is motherhood. I will submit to you that the stresses of motherhood have made me a better rifleman.

Motherhood and life as an Army spouse, for that matter, are loaded with stressful situations. When presented with these situations, moms and wives can’t always express their emotions the way they truly want to either because it’s irrational or they fear incarceration so they stuff them down instead.

For example, I can’t pitch a fit when my 3-year-old colors all over the couch, carpet and walls with a marker because she really won’t care. She would actually be very amused and take notes for her next tantrum so instead, I stuff it. When my baby playfully punches me hard right in my eye, I can’t blow up at him so I stuff it.

## COMMENTARY

By **CURSHA PIERCE-LUNDERMAN**

*Special to the Leader*



After a long day, when I finally make it into my bedroom to crawl into to bed and I trip over my hubby’s pile of uniform and boots, I don’t wake him up and let him have it. Stuff. Stuff. Stuff.

But, oh when the day at the range came! I got down into my firing position. I locked the butt of that weapon firmly into my shoulder. I hunkered down to get my sight picture and fired away. Please don’t misunderstand. I didn’t have any of my family members in my sights.

It was simply a physical release of the internal madness that consistently bubbles under the surface of all women who wear many hats in their lives, I believe. It was amazing! I was in the zone, I was on a mission, and I succeeded.

Who could imagine that going to the firing range would help me relieve stress in my personal life while satisfying a mandatory Army standard? It was an amazing day of training. God bless the Army and the privilege of going to the firing range.

Anybody up for a friendly game of laser tag?

## Tangled web



*Photo by CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN*

**A group of children climb through a rope playset at the Hilton Field Softball Complex.**



# Citizenship path ends at Fort Jackson

By **STEVE REEVES**  
Fort Jackson Leader

Jae Kim, a first lieutenant in the Army Reserve, prayed that he would become a U.S. citizen before he graduates this week from Fort Jackson's U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School.

His prayer was answered Aug. 18 when he, along with seven other Soldiers, raised his hand and swore allegiance to his new country.

The event was noteworthy not only because eight Soldiers achieved their dream of becoming American citizens, but also because it marked the first time that a naturalization ceremony took place at Fort Jackson.

It took about 2 1/2 months from the time Kim, who was born in South Korea, applied for citizenship until he raised his hand for the oath of allegiance.

That was much less time than the nearly yearlong process he went through to join the Army as a legal resident of the United States.

"This happened sooner than I expected," said Kim, who first came to the United States as an exchange student in 1994. "I'm really happy. It is my honor and privilege to become a U.S. citizen and serve this wonderful country."

Approximately 43,000 military service members have attained citizenship since 9/11 with the help of a 2002 law that expedited the naturalization process.

Kim said he wanted to be an American citizen since he was a small boy living in South Korea, learning to speak English by watching television shows broadcast from the local U.S. military installation and making friends with the servicemen and women there.

"I was very much 'Americanized,'" said Kim. "I felt like I was called by God to join the Army and serve the Soldiers."

Soldiers like Kim will find that their path to citizenship is a lot less complicated now that citizenship services are being of-



Photo by STEVE REEVES

**First Lt. Jae Kim, a student at the Fort Jackson U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School, receives his certificate of U.S. citizenship from Jerri Adair, Field Office Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, during a ceremony Aug. 18. It was the first time that a naturalization ceremony was held on Fort Jackson.**

fered on Fort Jackson as part of an effort to make the process easier and more streamlined.

"Normally, the Soldier would have to travel to the immigration office in Charleston," said Miranda Broadus, Army Community Service Relocation Program manager. "This brings immigrations services to the troops."

About 75 Soldiers a year from Fort Jackson become naturalized citizens and that number is expected to grow now that an immigration field officer will have a presence on the post, said Jerri Adair, field

office director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

Adair said her office in Charleston will now have someone at Fort Jackson at least one day a week to help Soldiers become naturalized citizens.

The naturalization process can be a lengthy one, involving filling out a lot of paperwork, background check, passing a test on U.S. government and demonstrating a command of the English language.

"It's pretty intensive, and (is) on top of their regular military duties," Adair said.

One of the biggest steps in the natural-

ization process is the interview with an immigration officer, which will now take place on Fort Jackson.

The interview involves verifying background information, checking the immigration status and administering the citizenship test.

"This will definitely speed things up," Adair said. "Sometimes by the time we would try to interview a Soldier, he or she would have left Fort Jackson for another (post). Now we'll have someone right here to interview them quickly."

*Steven.Parrish2@us.army.mil*



# As flu season nears, protection is key

Winter is the prime time for colds, flu, and other respiratory illnesses. And as fall nears, the seasonal flu is a major concern. We may not have a wonder pill, but there are things we can do to protect ourselves. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that we do the following:

## *Take time to get a flu vaccine.*

— CDC recommends a yearly flu vaccine as the first and most important step in protecting against this serious disease.

— While there are many different flu viruses, the flu vaccine protects against the three main flu strains that research indicates will cause the most illness during the flu season.

— The vaccine can protect you from getting sick from these three viruses or it can make your illness milder if you get a different flu virus.

— Getting a vaccine is very important for people at high risk for serious flu complications, including young children, pregnant women, people with chronic health conditions like asthma, diabetes or heart or lung disease, and people 65 and older.

## COMMENTARY

**Kenneth Cobb**

*Moncrief Army Community Hospital*

— People who live with or care for those at high risk should also get a flu vaccine to protect their high-risk contact.

## *Take everyday preventive actions.*

— Cover your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. Throw the tissue in the trash after you use it.

— Wash your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.

— Try to avoid close contact with sick people.

— If you get the flu, CDC recommends that you stay home from work or school and limit contact with others to keep from infecting them.

— Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs spread this way.

*Take flu antiviral drugs if your doctor recommends them.*

— If you do get the flu, antiviral drugs are an important treatment option. (They are not a substitute for vaccination.)

— Antiviral drugs are prescription medicines that fight against the flu by keeping flu viruses from reproducing in your body.

— Antiviral drugs can make your illness milder and make you feel better faster. They may also prevent serious flu complications. This could be especially important for people at high risk.

— For treatment, antiviral drugs work best if started soon after getting sick (within two days of symptoms).

— Flu-like symptoms include a high-grade fever, headache, extreme tiredness, dry cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose and muscle aches.

For more information about seasonal flu, visit [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov). For information on the flu vaccine, call 751-5251.

Dates and times for vaccinations will be published at a later date.

## MACH updates

### FLU IMMUNIZATION PROGRAM

Preventive Medicine will conduct training on the DoD influenza immunization program today, Sept. 10, 17 and 24, 9-10 a.m. in the Moncrief Army Community Hospital staff conference room on the third floor.

### ORTHOPEDIC CLINIC

The MACH Orthopedic Clinic is currently seeing only active-duty Soldiers and certain other patients for follow-up appointments. If you need assistance obtaining orthopedic care, call the referral center at 751-2363

### FOLLOW MACH ON TWITTER

MACH is announcing same-day appointments for primary care on Twitter. These are appointments that were initiated by another patient but were canceled. The open appointment will become available to the first patient to request it. Sign up at [www.twitter.com/machcsd](http://www.twitter.com/machcsd).

### OUTPROCESSING POLICY

Soldiers must now clear the Army Substance Abuse Program, Social Work Services and Behavioral Health prior to leaving the installation.

The Soldiers' out-processing will include a review of medical records and provide an opportunity for the Soldier to receive care or information at their gaining installation. Out-processing hours are 8-11 a.m., Tuesday and 1-4 p.m. Thursday, at MACH, Room 7-90. For more information, call 751-2235.

### CANCELLATIONS

To cancel an appointment after duty hours, call 751-2904. During duty hours, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., call 751-CARE (2273).

# DoD gets lower-cost prescription drugs

*From TRICARE Management Activity*

For the past several years, DoD has paid commercial rates for prescription drugs purchased in the TRICARE retail pharmacy network.

However, DoD is included in the 1992 Veteran's Healthcare Act as one of the "big four" government agencies entitled to federal prices when it purchases pharmaceuticals for its beneficiaries.

DoD currently receives federal ceiling prices, the maximum price that can be charged for brand name drugs, in military

treatment facilities and the TRICARE Mail Order Pharmacy.

Through authority provided in Section 703 of the 2008 NDAA and the "final rule" implementing the regulation, DoD will now get these same discounts in the TRICARE retail pharmacy network. The final rule took effect May 26.

Controlling the growth in pharmacy benefit costs for both the beneficiaries and the government is an ongoing process for TRICARE.

Beneficiaries can sign up to get e-alerts for updates to their pharmacy benefit

through the "email updates" link on the front page of <http://www.tricare.mil>.

DoD is projected to reduce spending by \$1.67 billion on prescription medications sold in retail pharmacies in fiscal year 2010, following the full implementation of Section 703 of the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2008.

"These are significant savings to the Department of Defense and are crucial to our effort to slow the rapid growth of pharmacy costs," said Rear Adm. Thomas McGinnis, chief of TRICARE pharmaceutical operations.

## WTU town hall meeting



*Photo by NICHOLE RILEY, Moncrief Army Community Hospital*

**Marietta Epps-Williams, deputy of the Benedict College Business Development Center, speaks at the Warrior Transition Unit town hall meeting Aug. 20 at Moncrief Army Community Hospital. Epps-Williams offered guidance on how WTU Soldiers could start a small business.**

# CSA feedback helps improve services

Community members who live, work, train or participate in recreational activities on Fort Jackson now have an opportunity to provide detailed feedback about all of the installation’s services with the Army’s annual Customer Service Assessment.

The survey may be accessed online at [www.MyArmyVoice.org](http://www.MyArmyVoice.org) through Sept. 18.

The CSA offers an opportunity to provide a comprehensive review and report on the garrison services customers use. Where the Interactive Customer Evaluation feedback system only captures individual customer satisfaction data from a single provider, the CSA captures much more.

“This is an opportunity for customers to assess garrison services based on their expectations of the ‘performance’ and ‘importance’ of that service,” said Dennis Ramirez, customer service officer. “Services are rated from a customer’s viewpoint.”

The leadership assessment will provide measurable feedback from an important customer group — the mission commanders and staff officers from the company/battalion/brigade level through Fort Jackson leadership, includ-

## CUSTOMER SERVICE CORNER

ing senior civilian leaders.

Using a scale of one (very poor) to five (excellent), leaders will rate the “performance” and “importance” of the services provided by each of the garrison’s directorates. Leaders will also be asked to identify the top five most important services within each directorate that contribute to the accomplishment of their organizational mission. The survey is designed to be completed in 15 minutes.

“The leadership assessment piece is huge,” Ramirez said. “So much of what the garrison does is for Soldiers at all levels. It’s essential that we capture the feedback from them.”

The garrison commander can use the feedback to determine what is most important from the perspective of those who participate in the assessment.

“The ultimate goal is to provide the highest quality of services possible within the garrison,” Ramirez said. “If we can provide services our customers want — and provide them well — then we’re doing the right thing to support our Soldiers and their families, as well as every other customer who uses our garrison services.”

However, the only way the garrison commander can get an accurate picture of customer satisfaction and customer expectations is by maximum participation from the customers.

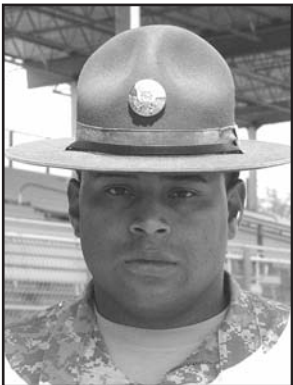
IMCOM leaders plan to consolidate the assessment data from each installation and begin analysis after the survey window closes. Last year, 640 customers participated in the survey.

Fort Jackson has the potential to surpass that number because thousands of people are eligible to complete the assessment. So, the Fort Jackson community has a great opportunity to provide the garrison commander with factual and very relevant information that will be used to improve the services provided.

For more information on the 2009 Customer Service Assessment, call Ramirez at 751-4926.

# Saluting the cycle’s Basic Combat Training honorees

## DRILL SERGEANTS OF THE CYCLE



**Staff Sgt. Xavier Pabon**  
Company A  
1st Battalion,  
61st Infantry Regiment

**SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Danelle Gamble

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Sandra Capistran

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Chad Agustin

**HIGH APFT SCORE**  
Pvt. Christopher Curry



**Staff Sgt. Juan Bernal**  
Company B  
1st Battalion,  
61st Infantry Regimen

**SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Felicia Scarbro

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Latrice Hawkins

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Sergio Zamudio

**HIGH APFT SCORE**  
Pfc. Michael Grabowski



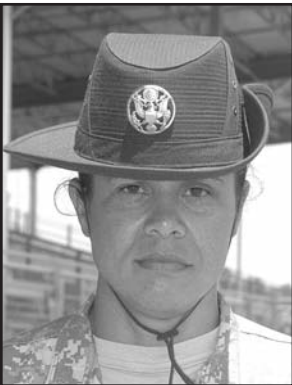
**Staff Sgt. Denell Simmons**  
Company C  
1st Battalion,  
61st Infantry Regimen

**SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Brandon Watts

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. James Lally

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. James Folden

**HIGH APFT SCORE**  
Pfc. James Lally



**Staff Sgt. Doreen Taumua**  
Company D  
1st Battalion,  
61st Infantry Regimen

**SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pfc. Brian Vaughn

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Emery Dubuis

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Tate Guptill

**HIGH APFT SCORE**  
Pvt. Anthony Scevers



**Staff Sgt. Roberto Gadson**  
Company E  
1st Battalion,  
61st Infantry Regimen

**SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Spc. Nicholas McGill

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Alexandra Reavis

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. Xavier Vesga

**HIGH APFT SCORE**  
Pvt. Glenn Whitten



**Staff Sgt. Temika Hayward**  
Company F  
1st Battalion,  
61st Infantry Regimen

**SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. Erica Stigall

**SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE**  
Pvt. John Daywalt

**HIGH BRM**  
Pvt. David Heeter

**HIGH APFT SCORE**  
Pvt. Christopher Dunham

## SUPPORT AWARDS OF THE CYCLE

**STAFF SUPPORT AWARD**  
Gwendlyn Brantley

**TRAINING SUPPORT AWARD**  
Lyle Daniels

**SERVICE SUPPORT AWARD**  
Andrea Gates

**DFAC SUPPORT AWARD**  
Charles Sampson

**FAMILY SUPPORT AWARD**  
Kristy Hearn





# Army Community Service

## August calendar of events

*Tuesday, Sept. 1*

**La Leche/breastfeeding support group:** 10-11:45 a.m., 5614 Hood St., Room 8

**Relocation assistance coordinating:** 10-11 a.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 213

*Wednesday, Sept. 2*

**Newcomers orientation/re-entry brief:** 9-11:30 a.m., Post Conference Room

**Steps to federal employment:** 9 a.m. to noon, Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222

**Play group** 10-11:45 a.m., 5614 Hood St., Room 8 (every Monday and Wednesday)

**Phase II LEVY briefing:** 2:30-3:30 p.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 213

*Thursday, Sept. 3*

**AER commander's referral training:** 9-10:30 a.m., Education Center, Room B303

**Sponsorship training:** 1-2 p.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 213

*Tuesday, Sept. 8*

**Baby basics:** 10 a.m. to noon, Joe E. Mann Center, conference room

**Pre-deployment Battlemind training (spouses):** 2-3:30 p.m., FRG Building

*Wednesday, Sept. 9*

**Pay Yourself (TSP/savings/investing):** 9-11 a.m., Education Center

*Thursday, Sept. 10*

**Financial planning for success:** 9-11 a.m., Educa-

tion Center, Room B302

**Post-deployment Battlemind training (spouses):** 10-11:30 a.m., FRG Building

*Saturday, Sept. 12*

**Hearts Apart back to school bash:** 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Twin Lakes, Shelter #4

*Tuesday, Sept. 15*

**WorkKeys Assessment:** 9 a.m. to noon, Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222 (\$35 assessment fee)

**Family assistance center training:** 2-3:30 p.m., FRG Building

*Wednesday, Sept. 16*

**Financial readiness for first termers:** 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Education Center, Room B302

**Employment readiness program orientation:** 8:30 a.m. to noon, Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222

**Information Exchange Council meeting:** 9 a.m., Post Conference Room

**Child abuse awareness class:** noon to 2 p.m., Main Post Chapel

**Resume writing for beginners:** 1:30-3:30 p.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222

**Phase II LEVY briefing:** 2:30-3:30 p.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 213

*Thursday, Sept. 17*

**Financial/relocation initial PCS class:** 9-10:30 a.m., Education Center, Room B302

**Installation action council/AFAP steering committee:** 2-4 p.m., Post Conference Room

**Positive parenting 101:** 2-4 p.m., Joe E. Mann Center,

conference room

*Tuesday, Sept. 22*

**Quick jobs seminar:** 9-11:30 a.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222

**Managing emotions under pressure:** 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., 5615 Hood St., Room 10

*Wednesday, Sept. 23*

**Career exploration/military spouse education assistance:** 9-11:30 a.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222

**Divorce and money seminar:** 1:30-3:30 p.m., Education Center

*Thursday, Sept. 24*

**Retirement planning class:** 9-11 a.m., Education Center

**FRG training:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., FRG Building

*Friday, Sept. 25*

**FRG training:** 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., FRG Building

*Tuesday, Sept. 29*

**Resume writing and interviewing skills:** 9 a.m. to noon, Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222

*Wednesday, Sept. 30*

**Child abuse awareness class:** noon to 2 p.m., 5615 Hood St., Room 10

**Job fair success:** 1-2:30 p.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 222

**Phase II LEVY briefing:** 2:30-3:30 p.m., Strom Thurmond Building, Room 213

For more information or to register for classes, call 751-5256 or 751-6325.  
This information is published the last week of each month in *The Fort Jackson Leader*.

Calendar

*Friday*  
**SSI NCO Dining In**  
NCO Club  
Social hour: 5:30 p.m.,  
Receiving line: 6 p.m.  
Theme: NCOs: Making a lifelong community investment.  
Call 751-8618 or e-mail *Nichole.Tavares-Gibbs@us.army.mil*.

*Monday, Aug. 31*  
**Girl Scout Registration**  
6:30-8 p.m., 5957B Parker Lane  
For girls kindergarten through 12th grade.  
Call 736-5875 for information.

*Wednesday, Sept. 9*  
**Retired Officers Wives Club**  
11:30 a.m., Officers’ Club  
RSVP by 3 p.m., Sept. 4. Call 783-1220 or 788-1094.

**Violence in the Workplace Training**  
ASAP Classroom, 3250 Sumter Ave.  
Participants can attend 9-10 a.m. or 1-2 p.m. Call 751-5007 to RSVP.

*Sunday, Sept. 13*  
**Sunday Worship Concert Series**  
9-11 a.m., Solomon Center  
Performance by Bethany Dillon.

*Tuesday, Sept. 22*  
**Maude Leadership Lecture**  
3 p.m., Solomon Center  
Guest speaker will be Sgt. Maj. of the Army Kenneth Preston.

Announcements

**BLACKHAWK BOWLING**  
The 171st Infantry Brigade has scheduled its inaugural Veterans Day Ball no-tap bowling tournament, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Wednesday, at Century Bowling Lanes. Prizes will be awarded to the top three teams. Each team should have four people. Call 751-9607/7242 for more information.

**VEHICLE PROCESSING CENTER**  
The address for the Vehicle Processing Center in Charleston has moved. This is the drop-off location for shipping or storing vehicles in connection with a permanent change of station move. The new address is 1510 Meeting Street, Charleston, S.C., 29405. The phone number is: 1-800-747-9223 or (843) 805-6667. The fax number is: (843) 805-6671.

**THRIFT SHOP NEWS**  
The Thrift Shop has an open position for a data clerk. For information, or to apply, visit the Thrift Shop, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., through today.  
The Thrift Shop is accepting fall and winter items. Halloween items will be accepted September and October; Thanksgiving items will be accepted October and November; and Christmas items will be

accepted October, November and December.

**COATS FOR KIDS**  
The Moncrief Army Community Hospital Sergeants Association is conducting a coat drive through Sept. 11. Donations will be accepted in the hospital main entrance.

**FCC PROVIDERS NEEDED**  
A Family Child Care training is scheduled from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Sept. 14-18, at the Joe E. Mann Center. Those living in government quarters and Department of Social Services registered off-post providers may apply to become certified to provide child care. Applicants willing to care for children younger than 2 are needed. An amnesty program is available to those providing child care who are not certified. RSVP by Sept. 9. Call 751-6234/1293 for information.

**VOLUNTEER COUNCIL POSITIONS**  
The Fort Jackson Volunteer Advisory Council for the American Red Cross has several volunteer positions available. Call 751-4329 or visit 2179 Sumter St. for information.

**T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST**  
The Family Advocacy Program has opened its T-shirt logo design contest to Soldiers, family members and DA civilians. The design should focus on the theme: “Let’s talk about it, not fight about it.” The winner will have his or her entry made into a shirt, and receive an iPod Touch. The shirts will be distributed during October, which is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Contest entries can be submitted until Monday at the FAP office in Room 218 of the Strom Thurmond Building.

**‘COME SEE YOUR ARMY’ TOURS**  
“Come see your Army” tours are conducted monthly. The tours provide the community with an opportunity to attend a Basic Combat Training graduation; observe Soldiers in training; get hands-on experience with a state-of-the-art weapons simulator system; eat lunch at a military dining facility; and shop for souvenirs. Call 751-1474/5327 to participate.

**LEGAL EDUCATION PROGRAM**  
Applications for the Army’s Funded Legal Education Program are being accepted until Nov. 1. The program provides funding for officers, second lieutenant through captain, to attend law school. Selected officers will attend law school beginning fall 2010.

Applicants must have at least two, but not more than six, years of total active federal service at the time legal training

**ADVERTISE IN THE LEADER**  
To place a classified ad, contact Camden Media Co. at 432-6157 or 1-800-698-3514.

begins. Eligible officers interested in applying should immediately register for the earliest offering of the Law School Admission Test.  
For more information, contact Lt. Col. Everett Yates at 751-7657.

**NAVY BIRTHDAY BALL**  
The U.S. Navy Expeditionary Combat Readiness Center Detachment at Fort Jackson has scheduled a Navy Birthday Ball, 6 p.m., Oct. 3, at the Marriott Columbia. Attire for military members is service dress blue (dinner dress is optional). Attire for civilians is coat and tie (black tie is optional). Call 719-3338 for tickets or information.

Housing events

*Wednesday, Sept. 3*  
**Pen Pal Club**  
Discover the art of writing letters while making new friends at Fort Gordon. For children, 4-12.

*Every Tuesday*  
**Walking club**  
9 a.m.  
Enjoy a walk through the scenic Fort Jackson housing area. Strollers OK.

*Every Thursday*  
**Kids’ day**  
10 a.m.  
A variety of crafts and activities for children younger than school age.  
*All events are held in the Balfour Beatty Communities management office unless otherwise specified. For more information, call Courtney Williams at 738-8275.*

Sports shorts

**COMBATIVES TEAM**  
The Fort Jackson Combatives team practices Monday through Friday at various locations. The team will compete in an Army-wide tournament Sept. 17-20. Call 751-6181 or 586-4802 to confirm and coordinate practice times or for more information.

**FLAG FOOTBALL**  
Letters of intent for flag football are due Sept. 16. Flag football is open to active duty Soldiers only.

**FALL TENNIS**  
The fall tennis season is scheduled Oct. 5-23. Those interested in participating must submit their names and their events by Sept. 29.

**COACHES NEEDED**  
Volunteer coaches are needed for Youth Sports flag football, cheerleading, soccer and volleyball. Coaches must be certified by the National Alliance of Youth Sports Coaches Association. Certification training is provided free. For more information, call 751-5040.

Pet of the Week



Photo by OITHIP PICKERT  
**A 7-month-old male pit bull is looking for a home. Off-post adoptions only. For information on pet adoption or other services, call the Veterinary Clinic at 751-7160.**

Off-post events

**GET RESUME READY**  
A Resume and Typing Clinic is scheduled from 2-4 p.m., Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29 at the Richland County Main Library. The program is free and open to adults. Bring work history, including dates of employment and company contact information. Call 929-3457 to register.

**GET RESEARCH READY**  
Use library resources to learn basic research skills. Students will learn how to find information from books, magazines and online databases. The program for middle school students is 10 a.m., Sept. 12 at the Richland County Public Library Training Center. Call 929-3457 to register.

**TEEN IDOL AUDITIONS**  
Auditions for the Richland County Public Library’s Teen Idol competition are scheduled for 2:30 p.m., Sept. 12 and Sept. 20. Registration forms are available at all RCPL locations, and online at [www.myRCPL.com/teen](http://www.myRCPL.com/teen).

LEADER INFORMATION

- ❑ Article submissions are due two weeks before the scheduled publication. For example, an article for the Sept. 10 *Leader* must be submitted by today.
- ❑ Announcements are due one week before the scheduled publication. For example, an announcement for the Sept. 10 *Leader* must be submitted by Sept. 3. Send all submissions to [FJLeader@conus.army.mil](mailto:FJLeader@conus.army.mil).
- ❑ Follow us on Twitter at [www.Twitter.com/FortJacksonPAO](http://www.Twitter.com/FortJacksonPAO) or become a *Leader* “fan” at [www.Facebook.com](http://www.Facebook.com) and search “Fort Jackson.”
- ❑ Call 751-7045 for information.



# Regulation clarifies meal card use

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**By SGT. 1ST CLASS LATARNYA D. WHITMIRE**  
*Assistant Inspector General*

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Pvt. Wonk just arrived to his new duty station. After a busy morning of in-processing, he headed to the dining facility for lunch.

While at the dining facility, he was asked to either provide his meal card or pay cash for his meal.

Wonk was very confused because during Basic Combat Training and Advanced Individual Training, he only needed to provide the last four digits of his Social Security number to receive his meal.

Wonk spoke to his new supervisor, Staff Sgt. Sey, about it and was informed that according to AR 600-38, The Meal Card Management System, meal cards were issued to all permanently assigned enlisted Soldiers who were not receiving Basic Allowance for Subsistence or other monetary allowances in lieu of subsistence-in-kind.

Sey further explained to Wonk that meal cards were not

required to be issued to BCT or AIT Soldiers during their training periods.

The following day, Wonk and Sey had lunch together at the dining facility. Wonk used his meal card, but he noticed that Sey paid for his meal.

Wonk asked him about his having to pay for his meal, and Sey explained that according to the regulation, enlisted service members receiving an allowance for subsistence, officers and civilians are required to reimburse the government for meals furnished.

This meant that he and any other cadre who fall into this category, regardless of their rank or job, are required to pay for their meals in the dining facility.

After two months at his new duty station, Wonk's unit was preparing to go on a field exercise.

Sey wanted him to process the paperwork dealing with meals for the enlisted Soldiers and officers who would be participating in the field duty.

Wonk read that Soldiers authorized SIK would continue

to use their garrison meal cards for identification purposes in the field.

During field duty periods of up to 14 days, (to include duty as an umpire, evaluator, or a participant in AT with Reserve components), Soldiers who receive an allowance for subsistence will receive an allowance deduction for those meals furnished by the government.

For field duty more than 14 days, the Soldiers' BAS entitlement will be suspended.

He further read that for officers participating in field duty (to include duty as an umpire, evaluator or a participant in AT with reserve components), reimbursement will be through payroll deduction, regardless of the field duty duration.

Wonk was learning fast that there is more to the meal card management system than the last four digits of Social Security numbers.

For further information on meal cards, read AR 600-38, The Meal Card Management System.

# FIRST RESPONDER

The following are incidents compiled from reports, complaints or information received from the Fort Jackson Provost Marshal Office.

The incidents reflected are not an adjudication attesting to the guilt or innocence of any person and are provided for informational and reflective purposes only.

**Lt. Col. Ronald F. Taylor**  
*Director,*  
*Emergency Services/Provost Marshal*  
**Sgt. Maj. Glen W. Wellman III**  
*Provost Sergeant Major*  
**Billy Forrester**  
*Fire Chief*



## CASES OF THE WEEK

❑ A military retiree was issued a ticket for criminal trespassing after a panhandling incident in the Shoppette parking lot, Military Police said. MPs responded to a call that the retiree asked a Shoppette patron for money. The retiree was stopped while leaving post. MPs discovered that he was in violation of a one-year post bar letter.

❑ A Soldier was charged with mistreatment of animals after MPs discovered a dog in housing was left unattended with no food or water, MPs said. According to MPs, the dog’s owner went on leave and left the dog in the care of another Soldier, who failed to take care of the dog.

❑ MPs said they were unable to track down an assailant who reportedly came up to a Soldier who was playing basketball in Coleman Gym and punched him in the head. The Soldier suffered minor injuries and declined medial treatment.

and the surrounding community are back in full swing.

Members of the Fort Jackson community should know there are many police officers out throughout the school year patrolling school zones.

Every year, people hear about increased enforcement in school zones. However, drivers need to remember speed limits and other traffic laws involving school zones.

If you live near or travel through a school zone during your morning commute, consider leaving a little earlier in the morning because it may take you more time to get to work.

Drivers should keep their eyes open for children running into roadways and from parking lots. Special care should be taken around school buses and areas where school children gather.

Drivers who speed, fail to obey a school crossing guard’s directions or who commit other traffic violations in school zones will receive a citation.

## TIP OF THE WEEK

As of last week, schools on Fort Jackson

**crimestoppers**  
**1-888-559-TIPS**  
[www.midlandscrimestoppers.com](http://www.midlandscrimestoppers.com)

**FORCE PROTECTION  
THOUGHT OF THE WEEK**

**FPCON  
CHARLIE**

**FORCE PROTECTION CONDITION CHARLIE**  
**Applies when an incident occurs or  
intelligence is received indicating some  
form of terrorist action against personnel  
and facilities is likely.**



# Fort Jackson women capture title

By CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN

Fort Jackson Leader

Paul Purser, a Moncrief Army Community Hospital Soldier, looked forward to joining his teammates on the Fort Jackson Knights softball team in defending their title.

But just weeks before the Medical Softball Invitational Tournament — which showcases athletes from across the Army's medical commands — he injured his leg sliding into second base.

Despite his injury, Purser still helped win a title by coaching the Lady Knights to victory.

Eighteen teams participated in the tournament last weekend, including three Men's Varsity A teams, eight Men's Varsity B and five Women's Varsity B.

Fort Jackson's men's and women's teams competed in Varsity B.

"It was a pretty good tournament," Purser said. "The first day of play, we pretty much ran through the competition."

The second day, he said, the Lady Knights lost the first game of championship play 7-2. The team bounced back to beat Fort Bliss, 7-5, in their second game to win the championship.

Though the men's team came in second place this year, Coach George Clash said he was pleased with the tournament.

"It was great. It was a big turnout," he said. "I think we did really well."

This was Fort Jackson's first time hosting the tournament, which has been played since 1978.

*Crystal.Y.Brown@us.army.mil*



*Photo by CRYSTAL LEWIS BROWN*

**Lady Knights' Jamie Washburn, releases a pitch during the 31st Medical Softball Invitational Tournament last week at the Hilton Field Softball Complex.**